



newsletter

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“Developing happy children through music”

Our children are exposed to Kindermusik, Playball, Ruggaboys and a variety of other activities between the ages of 6 months to 6 years that stimulates their mental and physical development. The children in informal settlements miss out on these activities due to various constraints.

The GraySwan Charitable decided to sponsor the launch of Be Sharp Beetles at 4 chreches in Kayamandi after the July 2011 holidays. “Be Sharp Beetles” is a South African music, stimulation and movement programme.

Music stimulates the brain, the emotions and the body simultaneously. The benefits of involving children in musical activities are immense: from developing a love for music to promoting brain growth. Music uses both the logical and creative side of the brain and by utilizing both sides simultaneously the brain forms connections across the hemispheres. The more connections we have, the faster we are able to think!



The programme has the following exciting components:

- Drumming
- South African music, rhymes and stories developing life skills and cultural awareness
- Learning songs and words in Sotho, Zulu, English and Afrikaans
- Dancing, singing and musical games to develop social skills
- Exposure to a variety of percussion instruments i.e.
- African instruments, egg shakers, rhythm sticks, maracas, castanets and many more.

Sharp Beetles Music and Movement classes do the following for children:

- Create happy children
- Changes the way the child thinks – it stimulates both sides of the brain
- Stimulates a child’s problem solving skills
- Helps the child to communicate and express emotions
- Help them with listening skills and concentration
- Helps children with memory
- Develops language skills
- Teaches a child discipline and boundaries
- Gives children the opportunity to be creative
- Helps children to develop a strong self-esteem
- Develops relationships with others

We will provide feedback on this exciting new programme and the children’s response to it within the next months.

